



AFGHANISTAN REPORT

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**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES
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**CRISIS AND CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM (CCAT)
AFGHANISTAN**

Chairman . . . Kamal Matinuddin
Co-Chairman . . . Ijaz S. Gilani
Project Coordinators . . . Fazal-ur-Rahman
Najam Abbas
Associates . . . Mohammad Umar Khan
M. Ashraf Poswall

1. The Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team comprises of leading academicians, strategists, researchers and policy analysts interested in the study of international relations. The members of this team meet periodically in groups; one team is devoted to the study of the Afghan crisis and conflict. In the light of carefully monitored information each group reviews current developments in its respective conflict area, and offers various policy options for consideration. While the Institute of Strategic Studies provides the forum, coordinates research and publishes the findings of the Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team, it does not necessarily share the views expressed by the team members whose participation in this group is in their individual capacity.

2. The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, collation, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all the parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Afghan, Soviet, and other Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Documentation Centre, Afghan Information Centre, the Afghan Islamic Press, and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are aware of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up in the Mujahideen, as present in regular armies.

— Editor

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**IJAZ S. GILANI
FAZAL-UR-RAHMAN**

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ACRONYMS

AAP	=	Agency Afghan Press (Mujahideen).
AAPSO	=	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.
AAWC	=	All Afghanistan's Women Council.
ADBA	=	Agricultural Development Bank of Afghanistan.
ALA	=	Association of Lawyers of Afghanistan.
APC	=	Armoured Personnel Carrier.
CC	=	Central Committee.
CP	=	Communist Party.
RA	=	Republic of Afghanistan.
DYOA	=	Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan.
HIS	=	Haqiqat-e-Inqilab-e-Saur ('The Truth of the Saur Revolution'), daily newspaper.
HMV	=	Heavy Military Vehicles.
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune.
ICRC	=	International Committee of the Red Cross.
KHAD	=	State Secret Service.
KT	=	The Kabul Times.
LOSPA	=	Local Organs of State Power and Administration.
NF	=	National Front.
PDPA	=	Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.
POA	=	Pioneers Organization of Afghanistan.
PSFO	=	Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.
RC	=	Revolutionary Council.
SAFS	=	Soviet Afghan Friendship Society.
TUA	=	Trade Unions of Afghanistan.
UJA	=	Union of Journalists of Afghanistan.
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNGA	=	United Nations General Assembly.
VFA	=	Voice of Free Afghanistan.
VOA	=	Voice of America.
VOG	=	Voice of Germany.
VOIR	=	Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (reportedly based in Iran).
WDS	=	Western Diplomatic Sources.
WHO	=	World Health Organization.
YPO	=	Young Pioneer's Organization.
'Jehad'	=	To strive, struggle, resist, fight against, as an article of Faith. One of the main tenets of Islam.
'Mujahideen'	=	Those who take part in Jihad against oppression and aggression, as an article of faith.
'Jirga'	=	Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Loi Jirga'	=	National Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Afghanis'	=	Afghan Currency.

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2 — NOTEABLE MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Qandahar

On December 16, 17 and 18 two large convoys protected by armoured vehicles and aircraft brought in reinforcements and supplies to the beleaguered Qandahar city from Shindand military built-up area in South Western Afghanistan. Among the arrivals were supposed to be a large number of Russian troops. A resistance source put it at 5,000 men intended to increase the regime's military strength in Qandahar. Meanwhile, heavy bombardment in the surrounding areas of Qandahar city continued unabated. Consequently, a large number of civilians were killed and their houses and orchards destroyed. The Qandahar airport was repeatedly subjected to rocket and missile attacks during December.

Paktia

Mujahideen continued to attack regime troops and establishments at Gardez, Khost, Sayed Karam and Ali Sher. They mounted several attacks on the provincial capital and Gardez's main supply routes were under heavy pressure throughout.

Reports said there was acute shortage of food, fuel and other supplies in Gardez. A number of aircraft and helicopters were destroyed in the vicinity of Gardez and Khost.

Kabul radio said that a transport plane travelling between Khost, about 30 miles inside Afghanistan, and the capital Kabul was shot down by jets from the Pakistan Air Force. Pakistan denied the allegation. Soviet news agency TASS said that the Mujahideen had started a big offensive to capture Gardez. It said there were casualties among the civilians and that several buildings had been badly damaged.

Ningarhar

Despite persistent pressure on Jalalabad, the provincial capital was holding out against Mujahideen attacks. Apparently this was because the Mujahideen had not been able to take the large military base of Samarkhel, some 15 kilometres from Jalalabad on the Torkham-Jalalabad road. Mujahideen however captured the strategic Darra-e-Noor. It shares a common valley with Ningarhar, Kunar and Laghman provinces. Soviet-made aircraft bombed Mujahideen positions and villages in the liberated territory.

Kabul

Mujahideen continued to attack transport on the highways leading

to the capital Kabul from the sides of (a) Jalalabad and (b) the North, along the Salang. Several tanks and trucks were destroyed during these attacks. Later Kabul Radio claimed that traffic had been restored on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway and scores of trucks and buses carrying foodgrain and passengers came to the capital. The regime also established a number of new posts along the highway. An unconfirmed report quoting western diplomats said government batteries in Kabul had been pouring intense artillery and rocket fire into suspected Mujahideen positions. The Mujahideen exploded some bombs in Kabul city damaging a number of buildings and killing and injuring dozens of citizens. They also destroyed some helicopters and MiG fighters.

Military Positions and Towns captured by Mujahideen (December 1988)

Place	Province	Date
Takhtapul Garrison	Qandahar	27-12-1988
Ali Sher Garrison	Paktiya	25-12-1988
Dara-e-Noor	Ningarhar	7-12-1988
Khywah District	Ningarhar	24-12-1988
Qazaq Garrison	Takhar	22-12-1988
Bagh-e-Zakheera Garrison	Takhar	22-12-1988
Gharib Hussain Garrison	Sar-e-Pul	9-12-1988
Qadis District	Badghis	9-12-1988
Mughab District	Badghis	22-12-1988
Dilaram Garrison	Farah	3-12-1988
Bala Bolak Garrison	Farah	4-12-1988
Mehtaralam Jail	Laghman	25-12-1988

3 — PROVINCEWISE SUEVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimroz (also bordering Iran)

Mujahideen sources: On December 4, Mujahideen attacked regime troops in Zaranj. As a result, 5 soldiers were killed and a number of them were wounded.

Hilmand

Mujahideen sources: On December 6, Mujahideen attacked securi-

ty posts in the vicinity of Girishk, killing a number of soldiers and destroying some APCs and trucks. On the same day was sighted on the Herat-Qandahar road a large military convoy presumably carrying reinforcements to Qandahar.

On December 16, a part of the military convoy arrived in Girishk. The other part of the convoy converged on Lashkargah, the provincial headquarters. There were supposed to be more than 5,000 combatants in the convoy. It continued its progress towards Qandahar, despite persistent Mujahideen attacks right from its starting point at Shindand to Girishk, Lashkargah and beyond.

On December 29, Mujahideen ambushed a jeep between the airstrip and cantonment at the provincial headquarters Lashkargah. Three 'high-ranking' officers believed to be travelling in the jeep were killed.

Radio Tehran: Afghan guerillas attacked an enemy base in Hilmand province, killing 26 enemy troops (December 8, 1988).

VOA: A Soviet-Kabul convoy consisting of 460 trucks and tanks arrived in Girishk town, nearly 120 kilometres west of Qandahar on December 16. The big convoy divided and a smaller part moved towards Lashkargah, the capital of Hilmand province. The Mujahideen are consistently exerting pressure on it. The other part of the convoy is advancing towards Qandahar. The resistance Commander stated that the Mujahideen attacked both sub-convoys as they were nearing their destinations (Radio Report: December 22, 1988).

Radio Kabul: An Iranian national, Jamshed Noora son of Ghulam Mohsin who had illegally entered Afghanistan for espionage and terrorist activities was apprehended by the security forces in Hilmand province recently. The spy was produced before a press conference arranged by the Afghan Foreign Ministry for foreign journalists. He revealed facts about his espionage and terrorist activities in Afghanistan and the intelligence activities of the Afghan refugees in Iran (News-Pushto: December 14, 1988).

During mopping-up operations a number of extremists were killed in the outskirts of Girishk Woleswali of Hilmand province yesterday (News-Pushto: December 25, 1988).

Military correspondents of the Bakhtar News Agency have reported that in the course of successful mopping-up operations, the heroic Armed Forces have dealt heavy blows to the extremists today and yesterday. During operations in the outskirts of Herat, Hilmand, Qandahar and Ningarhar provinces, thirty-seven extremists were killed and twenty eight others injured. In these operations several hideouts and ammunition depots of the opponents were also destroyed (Dec 31, 1988).

Qandahar

Mujahideen sources: On November 21, Mujahideen shot down a jet fighter near Spin Buldak. Two pilots were captured.

On November 25, Mujahideen blasted an ammunition depot (somewhere) in Qandahar province.

On November 28, Mujahideen attacked Qishla-i-Jadid, an important military position 15 kilometres east of Qandahar airport. Three armoured vehicles were destroyed and 7 Kabul army personnel killed. During this operation the Mujahideen lost 17 fighters.

On November 29 and 30, Mujahideen continued their pressure on regime troops and establishments at the Qandahar airport and Murad Qala. A tank was destroyed at Murad Qala.

On December 2, twelve Kabul regime soldiers manning a security post in Qandahar crossed over to the Mujahideen lines.

On December 5, sixteen non-combatants were killed in Khawaja Malik village in Arghandab by aerial bombardment. Soviet-made war-planes had for the past several days been bombarding Arghandab and Panjwai districts. Eye witnesses said these aeroplanes were using two new type of bombs.

On December 7, Mujahideen captured five KHAD secret service agents from the Baro Bazar of Qandahar city.

On December 8, Mujahideen continued with their attacks on regime establishments and troops in Qandahar city and on Qandahar airport. Likewise, Soviet-Kabul aeroplanes persisted with bombardment of Mujahideen positions and rural communities around Qandahar city, airport and the cantonment. Noorzo Kocha, Zangabad and Talokan areas received the brunt of these attacks. A large, but unspecified, number of persons were killed and houses demolished.

On December 12, 13 and 14, Mujahideen attacked regime troops and establishments near Manzil Bagh, the Airport and Zakir Sharif. A military convoy was also hit in Arghandab. A tank was destroyed.

On December 16, 17 and 18, armoured columns of Soviet-Kabul troops brought in Qandahar province reinforcements from Shindand Airbase and military built up area of adjoining Herat province. Among the arrivals were supposed to be a large number of Russian troops. These troops first camped at Kushk Nakhed and from there pushed their way into Maiwand district. They fired rockets on Mujahideen positions in Panjwai. Meanwhile, the Mujahideen attacked Qandahar airport.

On December 23, Mujahideen fired rockets on regime troops in Torkotal and Takhtapul areas. In another encounter near the airport, the Mujahideen lost 40 fighters. Meanwhile, Soviet jets and helicopters

subjected parts of Qandahar city to severe bombardment. Among the attacking aircraft were MiG-27s. One of the worst hit areas was Eidgah Gate. More than 50 civilians were killed and a larger number wounded. Several houses were demolished.

On December 27, Mujahideen fired rockets on Qandahar airport. A helicopter was hit and several troops killed and wounded. A mobile army contingent was also attacked near Torkotal.

VIRA: Reports from Qandahar say that Afghan Mujahideen belonging to different parties and organizations have launched attacks on the military installations and bases of the Kabul regime troops inside Qandahar city (December 15, 1988).

A report from Qandahar province says that the Afghan Mujahideen attacked centre of the communist troops in Dand area of that province and killed eight of them besides destroying their three tanks and three other vehicles.

Report says that a number of troops were injured in this operation and a huge quantity of their ammunition was set ablaze (News—Pushto: December 15, 1988).

The Mujahideen shot down a military transport plane of the Kabul regime at Qandahar airport killing all the military personnel on board.

It may be recalled that during the recent weeks, the Mujahideen have shot down three MiG aircrafts of the enemy in Qandahar.

Reports from Qandahar say fierce fighting continues between the Mujahideen and the Kabul troops in Qandahar and heavy casualties have been inflicted on the Kabul regime troops.

Meanwhile, the puppet Kabul government has deputed one of its mercenaries, Esmat Muslim, to go to Qandahar and check the advance of the Mujahideen (News—Persian: December 16, 1988).

Radio Tehran: Forty-nine enemy troops were either killed or wounded in an attack launched by Afghan Mujahideen on a military base in Arghandab. They also destroyed an enemy tank and a communication centre during the operation (News—Urdu: December 8, 1988).

During bombing by Soviet aircrafts on the residential areas of Qandahar city atleast ninety people have been martyred. Radio Kabul reported killing of only twenty-four people during the bombing.

The people of Qandahar reportedly came to the streets after the bombing and staged demonstrations and raised slogans against the usurpers Soviet Union and Afghan government (News—Urdu: December 14, 1988).

According to the report, the citizens identified a number of KHAD members in Qandahar and killed them (News—Urdu: December 14, 1988).

According to a report of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) the Afghan Mujahideen in a rocket attacks on Qandahar airport destroyed an aircraft (News—Persian: December 15, 1988).

In a Mujahideen attack Friday last on Qandahar airport, three aircrafts and four tanks of the Kabul regime were destroyed (News—Persian: December 20, 1988).

Reports from Afghanistan say that following Afghan Mujahideen pressure on Qandahar city during the last few weeks, Soviet military equipment and reinforcement of five thousand troops and a number of tanks have been sent to that province (December 20, 1988).

Soviet aircraft bombed residential areas in the outskirts of Eidgah of Qandahar province killing or injuring twenty-eight people (December 31, 1988).

VOA: The Afghan Mujahideen say they shot down a Soviet MiG-27 plane in southern Afghanistan on Tuesday, which fell down near Pakistani border in Qandahar province. This is the second MiG-27 plane, which the Mujahideen claim to have recently shot down (News—Urdu: December 9, 1988).

Fighting is continuing around the southern Qandahar city of Afghanistan. Nazakat Ali Khan reads out the report of VOA's correspondent, Irfan Ghazi from Islamabad:

The efforts by the Soviet-Kabul forces to re-inforce the government troops besieged in Qandahar city have failed. According to latest reports, the Mujahideen forced a big convoy of trucks loaded with fresh troops and equipment back to a Soviet base in Western Afghanistan. Two Afghan Army officers who have joined Mujahideen in Qandahar said that the government garrison in the city is faced with acute shortage of arms and ammunition. Brig. Bahai Khan who was the commander of an Afghan commando unit in Qandahar and his Chief of Staff, Col. Ghulam Mohammad, after being defeated by the Mujahideen, defected on December 17. The Afghan Army officers are now in the Pakistani border city Quetta. They say the arrangements made by the Kabul regime to fly reinforcements to Qandahar proved insufficient due to the fighting going on around that city and its airport.

Earlier, reports received through Mujahideen said that five thousand Soviet troops had been sent from Shindand garrison in Western Afghanistan to Qandahar to re-inforce and meet the shortage of Afghan forces (December 22, 1988).

Salahuddin Ahmed presents a summary of the press reports on fighting between government forces and Mujahideen for getting control of the second biggest city of Afghanistan, Qandahar:

Washington Post's correspondent in Qandahar province, Timothy Gordon reports in a despatch that after Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, Qandahar city is the most important place in the war. Traditionally Qandahar has been considered a king-maker city and a number of people say that the occupation of Qandahar by Mujahideen will be a prelude to occupation of Kabul. Timothy says that the Afghan war continuing for a decade is now near to an end. Qandahar area has become a major centre of war where Mujahideen besiege the Government forces in garrison and airport areas and Soviet and Afghan aircrafts make indiscriminate shelling on Mujahideen. Timothy writes that the situation has not only highlighted the power of the Mujahideen but has also brought into light the rift among them in which they are trying to achieve victories in the war field on the one hand and on the other making preparations for running administration. The correspondent writes that Mujahideen have set up joint administrative councils in some areas whereas in some areas tribal and party enmities have become a hurdle in the way of their unity. The correspondent writes that war between the government forces and Afghan Mujahideen is continuing for control in eastern Qandahar province. Pressure of war is mostly concentrated on the forty mile long highway which links Qandahar city with Pakistan border in the east (Press Review—Urdu: December 26, 1988).

Radio Beijing: Afghan Resistance Forces say that the Soviet Union is increasing its military strength in defiance of a ceasefire plan. A spokesman for the Resistance told the Agency Afghan Press that five thousand fresh Soviet troops have been sent to the city of Qandahar. They are supported by tanks and armoured vehicles.

The spokesman said, such action could jeopardise peace negotiations between the Resistance and the Soviet Union.

The allegations follow American claim that the Soviet Union was carrying out upto one hundred air strikes a day against Resistance forces.

The spokesman said the action violated a Soviet promise not to mount offensive actions in Afghanistan during its troops withdrawal.

Under the Geneva Accords signed last April the Soviet Union shall pull out all its troops from Afghanistan by mid-February (News—English: December 17, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Mopping-up operations of the Armed Forces against the extremist elements are continuing in different areas of the country.

Military correspondents of Bakhtar News Agency have reported that as a result of the successful operations of the armed forces in the

outskirts of Ningarhar, Qandahar, Takhar, Paktia and Kabul provinces, scores of extremists were killed and injured. Different kind of weapons were seized from the criminals (News—Pushto: December 5, 1988).

Twenty-three families of our compatriots returned from Iran and Pakistan to Qandahar province yesterday. Bakhtar correspondent reports from Qandahar that seven of these families were sent to their native provinces Zabul, Hilmand and Farah and the rest were settled in their villages in Qandahar province (December 14, 1988).

Bakhtar News Agency reports that the Afghan security forces have killed a number of terrorists and arrested others in the suburbs of Qandahar city and Daman Wolesswali of that province and recovered sixty rockets and various type of other arms (December 15, 1988).

Military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency reported that the extremists committed an unpardonable crime in the outskirts of Qandahar city yesterday. According to the report our four compatriots were killed and three others injured when a motor car ran over a landmine, planted by the extremists (News—Pushto: December 22, 1988).

Military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency has reported that the Armed Forces in the course of successful operations wiped out a group of armed extremists in the outskirts of Qandahar province. As a result of their operations in Daman and Zangali Baba areas, 37 extremists were killed and 13 others were injured. In these operations five hideouts and an ammunition depot of the extremists were also destroyed (December 25, 1988).

Similarly, as a result of the heavy blows of the Armed Forces in Takhtapul area of Qandahar province, twelve extremists were wiped out and seven others were injured. According to another report, in the Armed Forces operations in Sarkpoza and Baba Kotal areas of Qandahar province, two extremists were killed and their hideout was destroyed (December 27, 1988).

The Bakhtar News Agency reports that the vigilant Afghan security forces have wiped out a number of armed terrorists, including two Arab advisers in their operations in Qandahar, Farah, Kunduz, Parwan, Kabul, Wardak and Paktia provinces during the past twenty-four hours (December 27, 1988).

Zabul

Mujahideen sources: On December 2, Soviet-made jets attacked rural communities near Shah Joi town on Kabul-Qandahar highway. A large number of civilians were killed and 14 houses demolished.

On December 7, Mujahideen attacked regime troops near Kalate Ghilzai. Two security posts were taken.

On December 9, regime troops tried to carry reinforcements into beleaguered provincial headquarters, Kalat-e-Gilzai. The attempt was frustrated. About 40 of the invading forces were killed or wounded.

On December 22, Mujahideen shot down a Soviet helicopter while it was overflying Mujahideen positions near Jaldak town on Kabul-Qandahar highway.

Radio Tehran: Soviet Army planes shelled villages in Zabul province on December 2, as a result of which 18 persons were killed and 14 houses destroyed (News—Urdu: December 13, 1988).

Radio Kabul: The security forces have cleared the surroundings of Qalat city from the terrorists (News—Pushto: December 6, 1988).

One hundred and thirty-seven terrorists were recently killed and tens of others injured in Zabul, Samangan and Kunduz provinces in bloody clashes between various rival groups of the terrorists (News—Pushto: December 16, 1988).

Military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency has reported that the Armed Forces in a series of operations in the outskirts of Qalat city of Zabul province, recently captured five extremists alongwith two ground-to-ground missiles (December 24, 1988).

Ghazni

Mujahideen sources: On December 2, Mujahideen attacked a KHAD office (somewhere) in Ghazni province and killed four secret service agents. They also attacked troops in Ramak and Dehak districts. Six Mujahideen, including a group commander, were killed during these operations.

On December 6, Mujahideen fired rockets on Ghazni airfield. Sixteen regime soldiers were killed. A radar station and a petroleum dump were also destroyed.

On December 12, a military aircraft was shot down near Rubat while it was attacking Mujahideen positions.

On December 23, Mujahideen attacked regime troops and establishments near Ghazni city. Twenty troops were killed and 8 captured.

On December 27, Mujahideen shot down a helicopter near Ghazni city.

VOA: Afghan resistance sources say that fierce battles have been fought between the Mujahideen and communists in Ghazni, Faryab, Paktia and Ningarhar provinces. Shah Mehmood from Peshawar reports:

The office of the Islamic Unity said that the Afghan Mujahideen under the command of Engineer Dost Muhammad shot down a MiG plane of Kabul regime in Rabat area of Ghazni province on Qaus 21. The report said that the aircraft was shot down by the

Mujahideen when three MiG aircrafts raided Mujahideen strongholds and residential areas in the area. The report says that pilot of the plane tried to bail out by parachute but the parachute did not open and he was killed. On the other hand, office of the Hezbe-Islami, Maulavi Khalis and Hikmatyar, have reported that the Mujahideen fired rockets on an oil depot and a radar centre of Kabul regime in Ghazni city on Qaus 14. As a result the oil depot caught fire and the flames could be seen for hours from far flung areas. The report said that sixteen militiamen and soldiers were killed during the attack. Two Mujahideen were also killed as a result of artillery shelling by the Kabul regime troops (December 19, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Six hundred and fifty families comprising of 1,500 persons have returned to their homes in the province of Ghazni. They are now living a peaceful life with their relations (News—Baluchi: December 23, 1988).

The Defence Section of Bakhtar News Agency reports that the terrorist elements have fired a number of land-to-land missiles on several places during the past twenty-four hours. One person was martyred and eight others injured in such attacks on Metrorian and Bibi Mehro areas. In Jalalabad, one woman was martyred and six others injured. In Herat province, three people were martyred and ten others injured. Three people were injured in Paktia province while a person was martyred and eight others injured in Kunduz province. Two people were injured in Khairkhana area. Six people were also martyred and eleven others injured when the terrorists fired land-to-land missiles on Maimana town of Faryab province and Ghazni city (News—Pushto: December 27, 1988).

Paktika

Mujahideen claimed Paktika province has been "totally" liberated.

Paktia

Mujahideen sources: On November 26, Mujahideen attacked regime troops at Matun, near Khost.

On November 27, Mujahideen attacked troops in Jaji Maidan and Chamkani areas.

On November 30, Mujahideen contingents from many parts of Paktia and other provinces tightened siege around Gardez.

On December 1, Mujahideen shot down a jet fighter near Gardez.

On December 2, 3, 4 and 5, Mujahideen attacked regime positions near Sayed Karam, and Ali Sher.

On December 6, Mujahideen shot down a helicopter near Zarmat. The pilot (Abdul Jabbar) who bailed out was captured.

On December 10, Mujahideen downed another aeroplane—a transport aircraft—(somewhere) in Paktia province, killing several persons on board.

On December 12, Mujahideen fired rockets on government installations and troops in Gardez, killing about 50 regime soldiers. They also attacked military transport on the Sayed Karam-Gardez road.

On December 16, Mujahideen fired rockets on Gardez airfield, hitting atleast 2 helicopters. Eight other helicopters trying to bring in supplies to the provincial headquarters were prevented from landing.

On December 19 and 20, Mujahideen attacked troops at Matun. Ten regime soldiers were killed and 4 vehicles destroyed.

On December 25, Mujahideen captured the military camp at Ali Sher, north of Khost. After a sharp exchange of fire Kabuli troops fled. Eight Mujahideen were killed in this operation. Mujahideen destroyed 2 tanks and captured a quantity of arms and ammunition. With the fall of Ali Sher, Mujahideen pressure on Khost further increased.

On December 27, Mujahideen captured 2 security posts in Jaji Maidan. Numerous Kabul regime militiamen were killed and 5 captured. Thirteen Mujahideen were also killed in the fighting.

Radio Tehran: In an operation in Paktia province, Muslim Afghan revolutionaries attacked a convoy of the Soviet-Kabul troops, killing eleven communists and destroying 11 oil tankers of the enemy. According to reports, Afghan Mujahideen also shot down a Soviet aircraft near Gardez city of Paktia province (December 8, 1988).

BBC: There are reports of another incident involving the loss of life of many civilians on board a plane which, according to the government of Kabul, was brought down by Pakistani fighters. There has been no official response so far from Islamabad to that accusation. Our reporter there says that the rebel Mujahideen movement is claiming that it brought down the aircraft, Soviet-built Antonov, presumably with a ground-to-air missile.

According to Kabul Radio, the plane was travelling between Khost, about thirty miles inside Afghanistan, and the capital Kabul when it was shot down by jets from the Pakistan Air Force. The Radio reporting the country's press agency said that this was an act of flagrant aggression in which three children were among those who died. They quoted the Soviet News Agency TASS as saying that the plane was a transport aircraft. Eversince the Afghan national airlines stopped flying altogether, Russian transport planes are being used to ferry not only troops but civilians as well to the main centres of population. Often

troops and civilians fly together. But earlier reports from Peshawar said that the rebel Mujahideen Commander for the border area in Paktia province had claimed that they had downed the Russian plane as it was taking off from the Khost airport. Last month, Pakistan admitted that its fighters did shoot down another Antonov transport plane. They claimed that the plane had violated their air space. But so far the Pakistani authorities have had nothing to say about this latest incident (News-Desk: December 11, 1988).

Pakistan has rejected the protest of the Afghan Government that Pakistan shot down an Afghan civilian plane in the Afghan territory.

According to the Afghan Government, two Pakistani planes attacked an Afghan civilian plane killing 25 persons on board.

Radio Pakistan reports that the Afghan Charge d' Affaires in Islamabad was summoned to the Foreign office and was told that these allegations proved baseless after inquiry.

However, the Afghan rebels present in Pakistan have said that they shot down this plane (News-Urdu: December 16, 1988).

In Afghanistan, the group commander of Hizb-e-Islami in Paktia, Jalaluddin Haqqani is quoted to have said that Afghan authorities have released 15 Afghan guerillas in exchange for the dead bodies of twenty Afghan soldiers who were killed in the shooting down of a Soviet helicopter on 5th December in the suburbs of Brahim Khel village due to which two Soviet and sixteen Afghan soldiers on board were killed. Later, an exchange of messages between the Governor of Gardez and Jalaluddin Haqqani took place and an agreement was reached on the release of fifteen Mujahideen in exchange for the dead bodies. The spokesman also claimed that an aircraft was also shot down on 12th December, as a result of which twenty-five Afghan soldiers were killed. It is said that the attack was made on Khost airport in which two other aircrafts standing on Khost airport were also damaged (Shab-Nama—Urdu: December 18, 1988).

Meanwhile, the official Soviet News Agency, TASS says that Afghan rebels have started a big offensive to try to capture the city of Gardez, capital of Afghanistan's eastern province of Paktia. It said there were casualties among civilians and that several buildings have been badly damaged. In its report, the Afghan News Agency said that the Afghan army has retaliated by killing about ninety rebels (News-Desk—English: December 20, 1988).

VOA: The office of Jalaluddin Haqqani has reported that the Afghan Mujahideen have shot down two transport helicopters of Kabul regime near Gardez on Qaus 25. The report says that the Mujahideen shot down these helicopters at a time when eight helicopters were on

their way from Kabul to Gardez city. These helicopters wanted to land but the Mujahideen fired rockets on them and hit two of them. Both the helicopters were shot down in the Mujahideen controlled area. There were no details about the casualties of the crew (Dec. 14, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Another report from Paktia says that in the course of the mopping-up operations, the Armed Forces wiped out ten extremists in the outskirts of Gardez city. Besides, three extremists were taken as prisoners. In the outskirts of Kabul city five extremists were reported to be killed by the Armed Forces (News—Pushto: December 1, 1988).

Quoting knowledgeable military sources, Bakhtar News Agency reports that the security forces inflicted crushing blows on those terrorist bands today which wanted to disturb the peace of Gardez town of Paktia province. The report says that these terrorists subjected residential areas of Gardez town to heavy shelling yesterday in which one of our citizens was killed and seven others injured. A mosque and several houses were also damaged in this shelling. Forty terrorists were killed and fifty-one others injured in today's operation of the security forces in this area. A huge quantity of arms of the terrorists was also destroyed (December 19, 1988).

The Military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency reports that as a result of successful operations of Afghan armed forces in the outskirts of Zarmale, Khost, Maimana, Dushtoon Zarghoon, Ghazni and Kunduz cities scores of extremists were killed or injured. In these operations eight Arab advisers were also killed (News—Pushto: December 30, 1988).

Radio Moscow: After violating Afghan airspace, Pakistani Air Force downed a civilian plane on Saturday. A Pakistani Air Force plane attacked a passenger airliner near the city of Khost. It has been officially announced in Kabul, the attack resulted in the death of 25 passengers including three children (News—English: December 12, 1988).

The situation in the Afghan province of Paktia is very tense where armed opposition contingents are trying to capture the city of Gardez. About two thousand shells were fired on Gardez in one day alone killing and injuring many innocent people and damaging many buildings (News—Urdu: December 20, 1988).

Afghan extremists shelled with heavy guns on Khost city in eastern Afghanistan killing many people and destroying houses.

The agency adds the extremists fired rockets on Gardez, Ghazni, Maimana and Pule Khumri on Wednesday, killing eight people (News—Urdu: December 30, 1988).

Ningarhar

Mujahideen sources: On November 29, Mujahideen and Kabul regime troops clashed near Pule-Kama.

On December 1, Mujahideen attacked troops in Shinwar district. One APC was destroyed.

On December 4, Mujahideen attacked regime troops near Jalalabad. Meanwhile, the 60-mile long Torkham-Jalalabad road remained closed, contrary to Kabul Radio claim that it had been reopened to traffic.

On December 5, a military convoy spearheaded by tanks arrived in Jalalabad from Kabul to prop up defences against advancing Mujahideen. The convoy was harassed along the way from Kabul. It later joined the large garrison in the Samar Khel cantonment, about 10 miles from Jalalabad. As this convoy was moving towards Jalalabad-Samar Khel, Soviet-made aircraft severely bombarded Mujahideen positions along the Torkham-Jalalabad road.

On December 6, Mujahideen captured several security posts in Khawajazar and Goshta districts. A tank and 5 other vehicles were destroyed. At least 60 regime troops were killed, against 5 fighters killed on the Mujahideen side.

On December 7, ten regime troops belonging to Jalalabad garrison deserted and joined the Mujahideen. A number of others were arrested by military police as they were fleeing their lines.

On December 27, Mujahideen captured 3 military posts in Dashti Qazi of Surkhrod district.

On December 10, a Kabul army mobile force ventured out of Samar Khel cantonment and attacked Mujahideen contingents threatening Jalalabad. This force was thrown back to its base after two of its tanks were knocked out by Mujahideen.

On December 11 and 12, Soviet-made planes attacked villages on both sides of Jalalabad-Torkham highway. A large number of houses were destroyed and their occupants forced to trek into Pakistan as refugees.

Also on December 12, Mujahideen shot down a helicopter near Jalalabad. Two tanks were destroyed in another operation in Surkhrod district.

On December 14, Mujahideen attacked a military camp near Jalalabad, killing 8 soldiers. Another report says that about 40 soldiers deserted and joined the Mujahideen. A Mujahideen despatch said: 'Mujahideen are firing rockets into the city as well as the Samar Khel garrison where an army division is located. Newly arrived troops are taking part in the fighting ... Though Kabul regime jets bombed the Mujahideen held areas day and night, truck-loads of ammunition des-

trained for the Mujahideen drive safely on the highway from Torkham to Jalalabad."

On December 18, Mujahideen captured 3 military posts at Charbagh and Maktab, near Jalalabad. The Mujahideen blew up the buildings.

On the same day, the Soviets fired Scud missiles on Mujahideen bases in Ningarhar province. Seven Mujahideen were killed and 30 others were injured.

On December 21, a tank was destroyed near Samar Khel cantonment.

On December 23, Mujahideen conducted a major explosion in Jalalabad destroying an electric transformer and some adjoining buildings.

On December 24, Mujahideen captured the Khywah district headquarters. A large quantity of arms and ammunition was seized by Mujahideen. Twenty-five soldiers of a tank regiment were taken prisoner.

VIRA: Reports reaching from Ningarhar province say in their operation the Afghan Mujahideen have liberated Goshta region in the east of Jalalabad city centre of Ningarhar province on the 25th of the last month.

According to a report of the Central News Unit from Islamabad, the Mujahideen have also captured eight villages in the vicinity of Jalalabad.

In the operation, a number of Soviet troops were killed and a huge quantity of arms and ammunition was also captured by the Mujahideen.

According to another report, Radio Kabul has confirmed the death of two generals of that regime. One of these generals was killed during fighting in Qandahar and the other general was killed in a plane shot down by the Mujahideen (December 1, 1988).

The Mujahideen have liberated an important area of Darra-e-Noor in Ningarhar province recently.

In the battle, 52 Kabul troops were killed and 60 others captured by the Mujahideen (news—Persian: December 14, 1988).

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen shot down a helicopter of the Kabul regime near Jalalabad yesterday as a result of which at least 16 Kabul regime troops were killed (December 6, 1988).

VOA: The Al-Bunyan News Agency says that eighty families migrated to Pakistan from Ningarhar via Torkham on Qaus 25.

The Agency says that Kabul government has sacked General Qiamuddin of 11th Brigade posted at Ningarhar. Earlier, Governor of Jalalabad was also sacked and brought to Kabul for interrogation. Besides, armed clashes between Khalq and Parcham factions have taken place in 9th street of Kabul city. It seems that tension between the two factions has now spread to provinces also. The Mujahideen sources

say that the Mujahideen fired rockets on different areas in Ningarhar province on Qaus 24 as a result an ammunition dump was blown up in Samarkhel and six officers and ten soldiers were killed of the 11th Brigade of Ningarhar province. A bomb was also exploded along the Municipal building on the same day killing or injuring a number of people (Commentary—Pushto: December 19, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Bakhtar correspondent quoting eye-witnesses who had lately come to Kabul from Pakistan has reported that Pakistani troops and Mujahideen have taken active part in subversive activities in Shinwar Loi Wolesswali of Ningarhar province. The dead bodies of Pakistani troops, who were killed during Afghan Armed Forces' operations were removed and handed over to their relatives in Pakistan recently and the injured shifted and hospitalized in Pakistan.

According to another report the Afghan refugees of Nasar Bagh camp recently staged a huge demonstration to express their hatred over the continuing war and bloodshed in Afghanistan. Thousands of inhabitants of the camp staged the demonstration at a time when the dead bodies of their relatives were being handed over to them. They had been forcibly sent by the extremist leaders to Shinwar Loi Wolesswali for fratricidal war (News—Pushto: December 3, 1988).

According to a Bakhtar News Agency report, the Afghan armed forces, with the help of local residents, have foiled activities of extremists in Ningarhar province.

Besides, Jalalabad city and its surrounding areas have been cleaned up of extremists. Large number of extremists have also been arrested. Thousands of bullets and cartridges have also been seized (News—Urdu: December 7, 1988).

Three Chinese advisers who had recently entered Afghanistan along with the members of the extremist group of the Rabbani band, were killed by the members of the Gulbadin group.

The Pakistan government has arrested three members of the Gulbadin extremist band on the charge of killing the Chinese advisers (News—Pushto: December 7, 1988).

The security forces also destroyed an arms depot of the Gulbadin band in Shamsakeer village of Ningarhar province and captured a huge quantity of arms (News—Pushto: December 27, 1988).

Pakistan has not so far abandoned its anti-Afghan activities and is not implementing the Geneva Agreements.

The daily PRAVDA says in an article that whatever arguments may be given about the stand of the Pakistan's new leadership, it makes no difference and the fact is that there is no change in Pakistan government's policy.

It has also been revealed that Pakistan has earmarked 22.5 million rupees for the terroristic activities of the Afghan opposition in Ningarhar province. Reliable sources also report that the Pakistani Militia consisting of fifteen hundred people is helping Afghan extremists in the province of Ningarhar. The Western arms are supplied to the Afghan opposition through Pakistan, with which the extremists are continuing bloodshed in their country and they are trying to strengthen themselves in the Afghan provinces and are attacking populated areas (News—Urdu: December 30, 1988).

Radio Moscow: Reports from Kabul say armed Afghan extremists supported by two thousand Pakistani troops have seized the border point of Torkham in Ningarhar province.

The Afghan army has been fighting rebel forces in the Kunar district of Zabul province. An American military adviser is reported to have been killed (News—English: December 2, 1988).

Kunar

Mujahideen sources: On December 21, Soviet-Kabul forces fired Scud missiles on Mujahideen positions in Kunar Valley. Eight Mujahideen were killed and nine injured. Soviet aircraft also bombarded Mujahideen bases in Noorgul sub-district on the same day.

Nooristan

Nil report

Provinces Bordering Soviet Union

Badakhshan (also bordering Pakistan)

Mujahideen sources: On December 11, Mujahideen repulsed a determined Kabul army attack on the strategic Baharak sub-district. The attack was preceded by aerial bombardment on Mujahideen positions in the Wardooj valley which connects Baharak with the border town of Eshkashim.

Radio Kabul: A caravan of the extremists carrying arms and ammunition was destroyed in Zebak area (December 1, 1988).

As a result of mopping-up operations by the armed forces yesterday in the vicinity of Faizabad city, five terrorists belonging to the extremist groups were arrested (December 19, 1988).

Takhar

Mujahideen sources: On December 22, Mujahideen captured a strong Kabul regime camp near the capital city Taloqan. There were

supposed to be more than 600 soldiers at the camp which fell after two days' fierce fighting. A large quantity of arms and ammunition and vehicles including tanks, APCs, machineguns and rocket launchers were seized by Mujahideen. In another operation Mujahideen eliminated 2 security posts at Siaboz and Qazaq. Here, several hundred regime soldiers and militiamen surrendered to Mujahideen.

On December 23, Mujahideen captured a stronghold of the Setami Milli faction of the Communist Party of Afghanistan in the outskirts of Taloqan. Mujahideen lost 10 fighters.

On December 24, Mujahideen shot down an aircraft near Taloqan. They also fired rockets on Kalagai supply depot, raising a fire amidst parked vehicles.

VIRA: According to a report from Takhar, the Afghan Mujahideen have captured a military garrison in the province. In the course of this operation about one thousand troops of the Kabul regime were taken prisoner (December 31, 1988).

Kunduz

Mujahideen sources: On December 1, Mujahideen attacked a Soviet military convoy proceeding to Yanqi Qala, near the Soviet border. The convoy turned back to the provincial capital city of Kunduz after losing 2 tanks and 2 trucks.

Radio Kabul: According to another report from Kunduz, twenty extremists were made captive during the military operations of the Armed Forces in Khanabad Woleswali (December 4, 1988).

The criminal extremist elements supported by America and Pakistan, by committing another brutal crime in the outskirts of Kunduz city, martyred 42 compatriots, including two children.

According to a report from Kunduz on Qaus 10, the criminals brutally attacked a passenger bus in Dashte Arachi area, when it was on its way to Kunduz from Hazrat Imam Woleswali. As a result of the attack 42 passengers were martyred. The only passenger who survived in the attack, is a minor girl (News—Pushto: December 5, 1988).

The criminal extremists supported by America and Pakistan, by using heavy weapons fired thirty-nine ground-to-ground missiles at Kunduz city today. As a result of this inhuman act of the extremists a woman was martyred and another eight including women and children were injured (News—Pushto: December 26, 1988).

After the announcement of national reconciliation policy 4,976 persons have returned to their homes in Kunduz province from Iran and Pakistan (News—Urdu: December 30, 1988).

In another successful operation in Sher Khan port area of Kunduz

province, 55 extremists were killed along with their three ring leaders, namely Hamidullah, Sattar and Muhammad Gul (December 31, 1988).

Radio Moscow: Radio Kabul reports that opposition forces have killed 32 passengers when they subjected to rocket fire a passenger bus going to the city of Kunduz. The victims included children and clergymen (News—English: December 6, 1988).

Baghlan

Mujahideen sources: On November 28, Mujahideen attacked a mobile military force near Baghlan city, capturing a tank, 4 machine guns and 30 soldiers.

On December 1, Mujahideen repulsed a Soviet-Kabul attack on Mujahideen positions in Dahana Ghorri sub-district, about 20 miles south-west of Puli Khumri. Earlier the invading forces killed about 20 civilians, including women and children.

On December 3, Mujahideen destroyed a number of oil tankers during an encounter on the Salang Highway.

On December 5, a helicopter was shot down over Khinjan along the Salang Highway.

On December 8 and 9, Mujahideen attacked troops in Kelagai area.

On December 11, Mujahideen conducted rocket attacks on security posts near the New Baghlan city. Two APCs were hit and a number of soldiers killed.

On December 15, Mujahideen clashed with "Russo-Afghan" troops near Baghlan city. Two tanks and 3 other vehicles were destroyed.

On December 17, a convoy carrying oil was hit near the Salang Tunnels.

On December 23 and 24, Mujahideen continued attacking government transport along the Salang Highway. Heavy losses were inflicted on Soviet-Kabul forces.

On December 27, Mujahideen launched a 'joint' attack on the Kelagai military base. Forty-six Kabul troops were killed.

VIRA: Reports from the Baghlan province of Afghanistan say the Mujahideen attacked the Kabul regime troops in that province, and destroyed a military jeep and a tank of the enemy (December 16, 1988).

Radio Tehran: A high ranking commander of the Soviet troops was killed early last week in the northern Afghan province of Baghlan. The Afghan Mujahideen launched a missile attack on a garrison of communist troops in Baghlan province in which several Soviet troops along with a high ranking commander were killed (News—Pushto: December 19, 1988).

Radio Kabul: In Baghlan province, six terrorists were killed and

many others injured yesterday (News—Pushto: December 19, 1988).

Samangan

Mujahideen sources: On November 29, Mujahideen clashed with Kabul regime troops in Hazrat Sultan area. Two tanks were knocked out with rockets.

Radio Kabul: A group of extremists was wiped out in Hazrat Salman Alaqadari of Samangan province (December 16, 1988).

Another five families have recently returned home from Iran and Pakistan.

According to a Bakhtar correspondent, they belong to Samangan province (News—Urdu: December 4, 1988).

Balkh

Mujahideen sources: On November 26, Mujahideen attacked a military convoy on the Shabergan-Mazar-e-Sharif highway. Four vehicles including tanks were hit.

On December 6, Mujahideen attacked security posts around Mazar-e-Sharif. Twenty-six troops were killed and 2 tanks knocked out. Two posts were eliminated.

On December 8, Mujahideen attacked 4 security posts in Gortepa area in Charbolak district. Both sides suffered casualties. Among the killed was a Mujahideen group commander of Faizabad sub-district.

On December 12, Mujahideen attacked Kabul troops near Mazar-e-Sharif. A tank and 2 other vehicles were hit.

VIRA: Mujahideen attacked Mazar-e-Sharif, capital of Balkh province on December 1. As a result, 82 Kabul regime troops were killed and 34 others surrendered to the Mujahideen. In the fighting, a Mujahideen commander and other fighter were martyred (Dec 21, 1988).

Jozjan

Mujahideen sources: On November 28, Rahim Pahlwan, a senior militia commander in Andkhoy district switched over to the Mujahideen side along with 70 of his men.

On December 2, thirty Soviet Central Asian soldiers, commanded by an officer named Mehrabbudin, were killed during a Mujahideen attack on the Sange Chark district headquarters. In other operations Mujahideen eliminated 7 regime security posts (somewhere) in Jozjan province.

Between December 12 and 14, Mujahideen fought pitched battles with Soviet-Kabul troops on the highway which connects Mazar-e-Sharif with Shibergan, capital city of Jozjan. Atleast 2 tanks and 6

trucks belonging to a convoy were destroyed. However this convoy eventually reached Shibergan.

On December 17, Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops in Khyber Rubat Kocha.

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen, in a recent operation in Sangchar area in Jozjan province, wiped out seven Kabul security posts.

During the operation, the Mujahideen killed 30 Kabul troops and injured 13 others, besides seizing a huge quantity of arms and ammunition (December 14, 1988).

Radio Kabul: A one hundred and fifty men armed opposition group led by Abdul Bashir laid down its arms and joined the policy of national reconciliation in Jozjan province. At a function which was held on this occasion the leader of the group on behalf of others pledged readiness to work for full realization of the policy of national reconciliation and ensuring peace and security (News—English: December 5, 1988).

Sar-e-Pul

Mujahideen sources: On December 9, twenty Kabul militiamen were killed and 20 surrendered when Mujahideen attacked and captured the Gharib Hussein Garrison in the newly-formed Sar-e-Pul province.

Some 300 klashnikov rifles, six heavy machine guns and two trucks of food were seized by the Mujahideen.

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen in an operation last week captured headquarters of Kabul Government's 522nd Regiment in Chaharbagh, Sar-e-Pul province.

The Commander of the headquarters and fourteen troops were killed and one hundred and seventy light and heavy weapons were seized by the Afghan Mujahideen during the operation (News—Urdu: December 11, 1988).

Faryab

Mujahideen sources: On November 27, Mujahideen killed 15 Soviet and 43 Kabul regime troops in Qisar district. Mujahideen lost 20 fighters.

Radio Kabul: An armed opposition band consisting of 150 persons in Faryab province yesterday announced its support to the national reconciliation policy.

Speaking at a function held on the occasion, the leader of the group assured every kind of cooperation for the implementation of national reconciliation policy and establishment of peace and tranquility in the country (News—Urdu: December 4, 1988).

Badghis

Mujahideen sources: On November 26, the Qadis district headquarters fell to Mujahideen after five days of fierce fighting in which 100 Kabul regime troops were killed and three tanks and four trucks destroyed.

Ten Mujahideen were also killed and 30 injured in the fighting.

Some 1,500 to 2,000 regime troops stationed in the headquarters of the district evacuated from there.

On December 13, Mujahideen attacked the headquarters of Kushk Kohna sub-district, killing one regime trooper and injuring another. Two Mujahideen were killed and two others injured.

VIRA: Reports from Badghis province say that Mujahideen got control of Murghab Woluswali last month and have made fierce attacks on communist positions. A military post was destroyed and huge quantity of arms was captured by the Mujahideen in this operation. Twelve enemy troops were also killed and two others captured. Five Mujahideen were also martyred and six injured. In retaliation Soviet aircraft flying from the inside of the Soviet territory bombed the Mujahideen positions and villages in and around Murghab Woluswali. As a result of this four civilians were martyred and many houses were destroyed. Mujahideen also fired three ground-to-ground missiles into the Soviet territory (News—Pushto: December 20, 1988).

Radio Tehran: In another operation in Badghis province, the Mujahideen attacked Murghab Governorate (News—Urdu: December 21, 1988).

Provinces Bordering Iran

Herat (also bordering Soviet Union)

Mujahideen sources: On November 21, Mujahideen shot down a jet bomber near Shindand airbase.

On November 26, Mujahideen attacked a mobile army group near Adraskan. Two APCs and 3 other vehicles were hit.

On November 29, Mujahideen attacked regime troops in Gulran district.

On December 2 and 3, Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime establishments and troops in Qadis district. Fifty-one Kabul troops were killed and 3 tanks destroyed.

On December 5, Mujahideen attacked regime security posts in Shakar Buz area of Gulran district.

On December 7, Mujahideen attacked regime establishments and troops in Adraskan and Herat city.

On December 9, Mujahideen attacked regime security posts near Khairabad. Nineteen regime soldiers were killed and one APC and 8 servicemen were taken prisoner.

On December 19, Mujahideen ambushed a convoy in Islam Qila area. Three vehicles were hit.

On December 20, Mujahideen fired rockets on a military camp in the outskirts of Herat city.

On December 23, Mujahideen and Soviet-Kabul forces were locked in fierce battles near the Shindand airbase and military built-up area.

On December 24, Mujahideen conducted attacks on military posts near Tor Kan. Several vehicles were destroyed and regime soldiers killed. Two posts were blown up with explosives.

VIRA: An Afghan Mujahideen source reports that the Afghan Mujahideen launched a rocket attack on the headquarters of the 4th armoured unit of the Kabul regime in Herat city.

Fifteen Kabul regime troops were killed and a large number of others injured.

According to the report, in retaliation, the Soviet-Kabul troops subjected the positions of the Afghan Mujahideen to heavy shelling and missile attacks, but fortunately no loss was caused to the Mujahideen (News—Persian: December 19, 1988).

Reports from Herat province say that by planting bombs in the educational centre of the 17th Brigade of the communist forces and in a base of Sarandoi last week, Mujahideen succeeded in destroying one tank and an armoured vehicle of the communist troops.

Another report says that the Mujahideen carried out successful operations in Ghoryan area of Herat province in the beginning of this month, as a result of which a number of enemy troops were either killed or injured and one tank and one military vehicle were destroyed. One soldier also surrendered to the Mujahideen in this operation (News—Pushto: December 20, 1988).

Another report says that the Mujahideen attacked a convoy of the communist troops in Andraskan area along Qandahar-Herat Highway recently. As a result one tank and two vehicles of the enemy were destroyed.

Similarly, as a result of an attack by Mujahideen a military post of the communist troops in Pushtoon Zarghoon area of Herat province, was destroyed (News—Pushto: December 29, 1988).

VOA: The Afghan Mujahideen say that fierce fighting is continuing with Kabul troops led by the Soviet forces near Herat in the North-West of Afghanistan since 2nd December. The Mujahideen say that a group of one thousand Mujahideen has been attacking a Soviet military

base, the headquarters of the Afghan forces and the headquarters of the Afghan secret police KHAD with rockets and mortars.

The unconfirmed reports received in Pakistan say that twelve government troops have been killed. Mujahideen Commanders say that the Soviet troops are carrying out air raids on the Mujahideen bases (News—Urdu: December 6, 1988).

Radio Kabul: In Herat province, a number of terrorists were killed and their arms destroyed when the security forces attacked their hide-outs (December 6, 1988).

Twenty families, comprising 306 persons have recently returned to Herat from Iran (News—Pushto: December 14, 1988).

Farah

Mujahideen sources: On December 2 and 3, Mujahideen attacked regime establishments in Dilaram district. A number of vehicles and installations were hit.

On December 4, Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops at Bala Bulak.

On December 13, Mujahideen clashed with Soviet-Kabul troops near Shindand airbase. A number of tanks and other vehicles were hit.

On December 15, Mujahideen attacked a Soviet-Kabul convoy on the Herat-Qandahar highway.

On December 18, Mujahideen clashed with Soviet-Kabul troops near Farahrud. Thirty-six Kabul troops were killed and two APCs and one oil tanker were destroyed.

VIRA: Reports from Farah province say that Afghan Mujahideen have liberated the Mapsa area of that province. A number of enemy troops were killed, wounded or captured by the Mujahideen. Six Mujahideen were also injured (December 4, 1988).

Reports from Farah province say that during operations the Afghan Mujahideen have killed fifty Kabul regime troops recently in that province. Reports say that 45 Kabul regime troops have also surrendered to the Mujahideen alongwith their arms. Mujahideen also destroyed four tanks and captured a huge quantity of arms from communist troops (December 17, 1988).

A report of the Afghan Mujahideen from Farah province says that a MiG-27 fighter plane of the communist regime was shot down by the Mujahideen in Mangal area of Farah province recently. The plane of the Kabul regime troops was on its way to bombard the positions of the Mujahideen (December 29, 1988).

Radio Tehran: Fifteen Kabul-Soviet troops were killed and ten others injured when the Mujahideen besieged the Khaka Sufaid Alaqa-

dari in north of Farah province this week.

Reports say that a number of Kabul regime troops were killed and wounded when the Mujahideen attacked two military units in Farah province last week. The Mujahideen also seized a huge quantity of arms and ammunition and military vehicles (News—Pushto: Dec 9, 1988).

The Afghan Mujahideen attacked a column of communist troops in Farah province killing atleast 10 communist troops besides capturing one of their trucks last week.

According to reports, during two separate raids last week, the Kabul aircraft carried out barbaric attacks on residential areas in Farah and Herat provinces. As a result, some houses were ruined and innocent people killed (News—Urdu: December 25, 1988).

An Afghan Air Force aircraft while bombarding the civil population of Farah province was shot down by the Afghan Mujahideen and its pilot was killed.

According to a report of the Islamic Republic News Agency, about 20 civilians were martyred and a number of residential buildings were also damaged in the bombardment carried out a few days ago (News—Persian: December 26, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Another report from Farah province says that as a result of military operations in Balabaluk Wolesswali yesterday, seven extremists were killed. Three ammunition depots and two hideouts of the extremists were destroyed (December 22, 1988).

Central Afghanistan

Bamiyan

Nil report of conflict from all sources.

Mujahideen sources said that after the exist of Soviet-Kabul forces from Bamiyan, it is being administered by a council comprising members from both the Peshawar Seven Party Alliance and the Iran-based Eighty Party Alliance.

Ghor

Mujahideen sources: On November 24, Mujahideen fired rockets on security posts guarding the provincial capital city, Chaghcharan.

On November 30, Mujahideen shot down a transport plane near Chaghcharan with anti-aircraft guns.

On December 10, Mujahideen attacked regime troops and establishments in Shaharak district, killing 20 soldiers.

On December 20, Mujahideen shot down a jet aircraft while it was bombing Mujahideen positions near village Pushta-i-Gulbana. On the

same day, the Mujahideen attacked regime security posts skirting Chaghcharan. Two military officers were captured. Three tanks were hit with rockets.

VIRA: The Mujahideen launched a rocket attack on a convoy of the joint troops in Ghor province, killing ten enemy troops. AFP has reported that the attack was launched on Tuesday in the outskirts of Fararukh (News—Pushto: December 22, 1988).

Radio Tehran: In their missile attack on a military convoy in the Ghor province the freedom fighters killed ten communists (December 21, 1988).

Uruzgan

Mujahideen sources: On November 26, Mujahideen attacked security posts around the provincial capital Tarin Kot. Three posts were eliminated.

On December 15, Mujahideen shot down a jet aircraft near Tarin Kot.

Radio Tehran: In another operation last Friday, the Mujahideen brought down one Soviet MiG-27 in Uruzgan province (December 21, 1988).

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul

Mujahideen sources: On November 7, Mujahideen fired rockets on military establishments in Kabul city.

On November 30, Mujahideen attacked a military convoy in the vicinity of Astalif, north of Kabul city, hitting a tank and another vehicle.

On November 30, Soviet troops ambushed a Mujahideen supply unit in a mountain pass at Kubaki, Paghman district. Seven Mujahideen were killed.

On December 1, Mujahideen blocked the Kabul-Jalalabad road near Tangi Abrishmi, east of Kabul city. Several security posts in the area were overrun, and a number of tanks destroyed. Soviet-made aeroplanes bombarded Mujahideen positions 'by day and night'.

On December 2, Mujahideen fired rockets on Shehre Nao.

On December 4, a military convoy moving out of Kabul and proceeding towards Jalalabad was attacked by Mujahideen near Tangi Abrishimi and Sarobi. Four tanks and 3 other vehicles were hit.

On December 6, Mujahideen attacked a security post near Sarobi. Eight regime soldiers were captured.

On December 7, 'Russian' troops surprised another Mujahideen supply unit in a mountain pass in Kubaki area of Paghman district. Thirty-three Mujahideen were killed and several others injured.

On December 10, Mujahideen attacked and destroyed an army jeep in Puli Mahmood area, killing 4 officers. In another attack on a vehicle some "KHAD" agents were killed in the same area.

On December 11, twenty-four Kabul army officers and men defected to Mujahideen in Sarobi-Tangi area on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway.

On December 12, Mujahideen destroyed a bridge on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway near Sarobi.

On December 24, Mujahideen frustrated two determined attempts by Kabul forces to re-open the Kabul-Jalalabad highway in the Sarobi-Tangi sector.

On December 25, Kabuli armour, supported by aircraft, made another attempt to clear their way to Jalalabad. They were again thrown back with severe losses. A helicopter was shot down.

VIRA: In a report from Kabul, a source said that an active official of the Crimes Wing of the Interior Ministry of the Kabul regime, Sakhi Muhammad was killed in Khushal Khan Meena, Kabul, in a Mujahideen attack recently.

The source added that the symbol of defence of the so-called Saur Revolution situated in the south-west of Kabul city was blasted in an explosion of a bomb which was planted by the Afghan Mujahideen. In the explosion, five atheists were killed and three others injured. The Mujahideen also attacked a jeep carrying the commander of Kabul Garrison, Qazi Khan in Darul Aman, Kabul. The commander and other two officers were killed (News—Persian: December 28, 1988).

An ammunition depot of the Border Force located in Darul Aman area of Kabul city was blasted by the Mujahideen by planting a time bomb (News—Pushto: December 31, 1988).

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Muslim freedom fighters, during their two operations killed ten Soviet-Kabul joint troops. During one of their attacks on a convoy of Soviet-Kabul joint troops last week, the Mujahideen captured one tank, four trucks and two heavy machine guns and arrested two soldiers.

The Afghan freedom fighters attacked another military convoy in Estalaf area, north of Kabul province and killed ten Soviet troops (News—Urdu: December 7, 1988).

The Afghan Mujahideen in an operation against the Kabul regime, closed Kabul-Jalalabad Highway and killed or injured a number of Kabul government troops. Moreover, they also captured Eighth Army

Headquarters of the Kabul Army in the South of Sarobi Governorate. During the operations, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries captured fourteen Kabul Army tanks and destroyed several military vehicles. Reports coming from Afghanistan indicate that some military units of Kabul government under the command of Defence Minister, Shahnawaz tried to retake these posts but due to resistance of Muslim revolutionaries they had to retreat after suffering heavy casualties (News—Urdu: December 12, 1988).

VOA: In the Afghan capital Kabul, a car bomb exploded on Saturday, damaging several buildings and injuring dozens of people by flying glass from shattered windows (News—English: December 11, 1988).

Western diplomats in Pakistan say Soviet led forces have stepped up attacks against Mujahideen positions near Kabul. In an unconfirmed reports, the diplomats say government batteries in Kabul have been pouring intense artillery and rocket fire into suspected rebel positions, since Sunday. Rebels say they destroyed four helicopters on Monday in a rocket attack on military base north of Kabul (News—English: December 29, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Today, scores of trucks and buses carrying foodgrain and passengers continued to ply on Kabul-Jalalabad highway. According to the Bakhtar News Agency report, traffic has been fully restored on the highway. The armed forces have established posts around the highway to prevent the extremists from carrying out subversive activities again. Passengers who arrived in Kabul from Jalalabad this morning said that they did not confront with any resistance during their journey and traffic is plying smoothly (News—Urdu: December 1, 1988).

The Afghan security forces have killed or wounded a number of terrorists, alongwith their two foreign advisers in Sarobi and Shahkardara areas of Kabul province and in the suburbs of Ghazni and Badakhshan provinces during the past twenty four hours. They have also destroyed a large quantity of arms belonging to these terrorists (6 December, 1988).

Another report says that five terrorists were killed yesterday in Charbagh area of Kabul province. A group of bandits was wiped out in Hazrat Salman Alaqdari of Samangan province.

In another clean up operation in Sarobi Woluswali, eight terrorists were killed and eleven others injured seriously and huge quantity of arms and ammunition was captured by the Afghan security forces besides destroying their eight hideouts (News—Pushto: Dec 16, 1988).

Bakhtar News Agency has reported that the armed forces have captured twenty missiles from the insurgents which were being shifted for firing on Kabul city. In this clash, several miscreants were killed

and many others received serious injuries (23 December, 1988).

As a result of the operations in the outskirts of Shakardara Woluswali and Kabul province, eighteen extremists were killed and forty others were injured (News—Pushto: December 22, 1988).

Radio Moscow: A vehicle was blown up as a result of a mine planted by the Afghan extremists in Kabul on Saturday. The houses in the surrounding areas were damaged and scores of people injured as a result of the blast (News—Urdu: December 11, 1988).

In Afghanistan armed opposition groups have again made a number of rocket attacks on the capital Kabul and several other cities. Kabul radio says the attacks against Kabul, Herat and Kunduz claimed 28 lives. Dozens of civilians were injured. In Paktia province about three hundred surface-to-surface missiles were fired against rural communities. The extremists received the missiles from Pakistan (News—English: December 28, 1988).

About twenty people have been injured in an extremist missile attack on Kabul, the Afghan capital. This was reported by a spokesman for Kabul Security Service (News—English: December 31, 1988).

Parwan

Mujahideen sources: On December 8, Mujahideen attacked a military convoy on Salang Highway. Five oil tankers were hit.

On December 10, Kabul regime troops were attacked in Jabulsaraj area.

On December 12, Mujahideen fired rockets on security posts near Charikar.

On December 17, five Kabul regime servicemen, including an officer, were killed in an encounter near Charikar. Similarly, Mujahideen destroyed two tanks and 3 oil tankers on the Salang Highway.

On December 24, Mujahideen continued attacking transport on the Salang Highway.

On December 27, Mujahideen fired long-range rockets on Bagram airbase. An aircraft was hit. On the same day a military post at Khawaja Sayaran was eliminated. Four regime soldiers and an equal number of Mujahideen were killed in this action.

Radio Kabul: According to a report armed forces attacked extremists in Parwan province, 12 extremists with their ring leader were killed (News—Pushto: December 12, 1988).

Kapisa

Mujahideen sources: Nil report of fighting. However, Mujahideen reported having captured four KHAD agents sent to Kapisa liberated

area for subversive activities.

Laghman

Mujahideen sources: On November 25, more than 145 “enemy troops” joined the ranks of Mujahideen (somewhere) in Laghman province.

On December 12, Mujahideen captured 23 Kabul troops and killed 12 KHAD ‘agents’ in Alinagar and Ali Shang areas. Three Mujahideen were also killed and 11 others injured.

On December 24 and 25, Mujahideen attacked regime troops and establishments near Qala-i-Zaman, Maseeni and Char Deh areas. Thirty regime troops were killed and two tanks destroyed.

Radio Kabul: According to a report 48 extremists were killed and 35 wounded when armed forces attacked them in the surrounding of Mehtaralam city (Kabul Domestic Service—Pushto: Dec 19, 1988).

Military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency has reported that as a result of an operation of the armed forces in Laghman province, 20 extremists were killed and large quantity of arms and ammunition was seized (December 23, 1988).

Meanwhile the extremist elements have once again fired land-to-land missiles on Mehtaralam city of Laghman province yesterday. Fifteen civilians were killed and many others injured. In retaliation, the security forces, shelled terrorists positions inflicting heavy losses on them and forcing them to retreat from the area (News—Pushto: December 17, 1988).

The extremists yesterday fired 1,500 rockets on Mehtaralam city in Laghman province killing and injuring a number of compatriots.

According to Bakhtar News Agency, the extremists attacked the city with ground-to-ground rockets and heavy weapons damaged public welfare places. However, the armed forces foiled their motives.

Thirty-nine extremists were killed and fifty-one injured and a huge quantity of light and heavy arms was seized by the armed forces (News—Urdu: December 18, 1988).

Eleven extremists with their ring leader were killed by the armed forces when they were planning to disturb the peaceful life of the people of Mehtaralam city.

According to another report from Laghman province, the armed extremists fired 450 rockets on the Mehtaralam city and its outskirts killing nine civilians and injuring 11 others while 13 residential buildings were also damaged (December 15, 1988).

Radio Moscow: Having suffered losses, Afghan armed opposition units have been forced to suspend their offensive on Mehtaralam

provincial capital of Laghman province. After four days of shelling rebel forces attempted to capture the town. On the approaches to the Mehtaralam they were turned back by Afghan army units. However, the situation near the town remains tense (News-English: December 18, 1988).

Logar

Mujahideen sources: On December 2, Mujahideen attacked regime security posts in Zaidabad and Bani Sherafgan villages, killing 36 men.

On December 8, Soviet aircrafts bombed villages around Pule-Alam, the provincial capital. Many houses were demolished. On the same day, five pick-ups packed with Mujahideen hit land mines planted by KHAD agents on the road connecting Dubani in Logar province with Pakistani border. At least 40 Mujahideen were killed.

On December 13, Soviet aircrafts bombed Dubani.

Radio Kabul: According to a report a convoy of arms consignment for extremists which was on its way to Dobani in Logar province, was attacked by the armed forces killing 23 guards and destroying huge quantity of arms and ammunition (News-Pushto: Dec 31, 1988).

Wardak

Mujahideen sources: On November 29 and 30, Mujahideen clashed with regime troops near Maidanshehr. Ten soldiers, including 2 officers were killed. Mujahideen took a security post by assault.

On December 17, Soviet aircrafts heavily bombed Jalraz and Kuhna Khumar. There was large scale destruction of housing which forced great many people to seek refuge in the adjoining Hazarajat hills and Pakistan.

4 - PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

Radio Kabul

Given below are the major Radio Kabul propaganda themes in December 1988, in descending order of recurrence:

1. Pakistan and United States are violating the Geneva Agreements by supplying arms and imparting training to the opposition extremists.
2. The actions and attitudes of the so-called Mujahideen are against the innocent people of Afghanistan and Islamic tenets.
3. President Mikhail Gorbachov's proposals concerning Afghanistan problems can help end the bloodshed.

4. Foreign Intervention in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is increasing.
5. Soviet Union and Kabul Governments are sincerely complying with Geneva Accords and striving for peaceful settlement.

Radio Moscow

Given below are the major Moscow Media propaganda themes in December 1988, in descending order of recurrence:

1. Soviet-Kabul authorities are observing the Geneva Accords on Afghanistan in word and spirit.
2. The new government in Pakistan is expected to change its policies and strengthen relations with regional countries.
3. United States and Pakistan do not want peace in Afghanistan. Consequently they are violating the Geneva Agreements.
4. Pakistan is building up its warlike potential and that jeopardises relations with neighbouring countries.
5. Mujahideen's irreconcilable attitude is going against the interests of the people of Afghanistan, and regional peace.

APPENDIX — 1

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN DECEMBER 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Human Losses

Soviet Casualties	:	113 killed and	18 wounded
Kabul Casualties	:	1625 killed and	1260 wounded
Soviet-Kabul Casualties	:	212 killed and	142 wounded
Defections	:	1267 Kabul troops defected and	1549 captured
Mujahideen Casualties	:	311 killed and	281 wounded
Afghan Civilian Casualties	:	304 killed and	142 wounded

Soviet-Kabul Material Losses

Aircrafts	12	Mortars	22
Helicopters	14	Rounds of	
Tanks	115	ammunition	1500
APCs	72	Quantity of	
HMV's	159	Arms, ammunitions	5
Trucks	73	Wireless Sets	48
Oil Tankers	58	Ammunition Depots	14
Jeeps	23	Security Posts	135
LMGs	103	Buildings	21
HMGs	154	Bridges	3
Doshaka	4	Radar Station	1
Assorted Weapons	300	Food Depots	2
Rocket Launchers	86	Fuel Depots	3
Klashnikovs	3215	Oil Pipe Line	2
Grinovs	10	Power Plant	1
Pistols	510	Transformers	3

APPENDIX — 2

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN DECEMBER 1988 SOVIET-KABUL (RADIO KABUL) SOURCES

Mujahideen & Afghan Civilian ("Counter-Revolutionaries") Losses:

Killed	1347
Wounded	746
Captured	63
Returnees: 2932	(Those availing amnesty, voluntarily surrendering, changing allegiance, joining Soviet-Kabul ranks and Civilian Refugees).

Mujahideen Material Losses:

Hideouts	44
Missiles	22
Recoilles Guns	33
Vehicles	10
HMGs	21
Doshaka	7
RL	293
Assorted Weapons	284
Mortars	42
S. Posts	5
Boxes of Ammunition	93
Munition Depots	21
Food Depot	1
Wireless Set	1
Bullets	1000
Horses	7

Losses Inflicted by Counter-Revolutionaries Elements:

Human Losses:

Killed	137
Wounded	146

Material Losses:

Houses	38
Offices	15
Mosque	1

APPENDIX - 3

PROVINCEWISE ENGAGEMENTS IN DECEMBER 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engagements	Provincial Capital	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	1	Zaranj	—	—
Hilmand	2	Lashkargarh	—	1
Qandahar	59	Qandahar	15	10
Zabul	6	Kalat Gilzai	1	1
Ghazni	17	Ghazni	4	4
Paktika	—	Sharna	—	—
Paktiya	42	Gardez	2	1
Ningarhar	89	Jalalabad	11	15
Kunar	4	Chagha Sarai	—	—
Nooristan	—	Nooristan	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	13	Faizabad	—	—
Takhar	12	Taloqan	—	—
Kunduz	4	Kunduz	—	—
Baghlan	41	Baghlan	—	—
Samangan	1	Samangan	—	—
Balkh	4	Mazar Sharif	—	2
Jozjan	6	Sheberghan	1	—
Sar-e-pul	1	Sar-e-pul	—	1
Faryab	5	Maimana	2	—
Badghis	7	Qala Nau	—	—
Bordering Iran				
Herat	21	Herat	—	5
Farah	6	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	Bamiyan	—	—
Ghor	7	Chaghcharan	2	1
Uruzgan	2	Tarin Kot	—	2
Kabul & Adjacent				
Kabul	41	Kabul	7	4
Parwan	17	Charikar	1	2
Kapisa	1	Mahmud-i-Raqi	—	—
Laghman	7	Mehtarlam	1	—
Logar	10	Pule Alam	—	—
Wardak	7	Koteasro	—	2
TOTAL	435		52	62

APPENDIX - 4

MUJAHIDEEN MOBILE & IMMOBILE TARGETS AND SOVIET-KABUL OPERATIONS IN DECEMBER 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Mujahideen Targets		Soviet-Kabul Operations		Total
	Mobile	Immobile	Air	Ground	
Bordering Pakistan					
Nimruz	1	—	—	—	1
Hilmand	1	1	—	—	2
Qandahar	16	19	20	5	59
Zabul	2	1	3	—	6
Ghazni	4	11	1	1	17
Paktika	—	—	—	—	—
Paktiya	24	12	3	3	42
Ningarhar	25	37	20	7	89
Kunar	—	—	2	1	3
Nooristan	—	—	—	—	—
Bordering USSR					
Badakhshan	—	—	12	1	13
Takhar	3	8	1	—	12
Kunduz	2	2	—	—	4
Baghlan	20	17	1	5	43
Samangan	1	—	—	—	1
Balkh	2	2	—	—	4
Jozjan	4	2	—	—	6
Sar-e-pul	—	1	—	—	1
Faryab	—	3	1	1	5
Badghis	—	4	2	—	7
Bordering Iran					
Herat	9	9	3	—	21
Farah	2	4	—	—	6
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces					
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—	—
Ghor	3	2	2	—	7
Uruzgan	1	1	—	—	2
Kabul & Adjacent					
Kabul	10	16	11	4	41
Parwan	10	8	—	—	16
Kapisa	1	—	—	—	1
Laghman	2	5	—	—	7
Logar	1	2	2	5	10
Wardak	2	1	4	—	7
TOTAL:	146	168	88	33	435

APPENDIX — 5

PROVINCEWISE SOVIET-KABUL SECURITY OPERATIONS
AND RETURNEES IN DECEMBER 1988
(Radio Kabul)

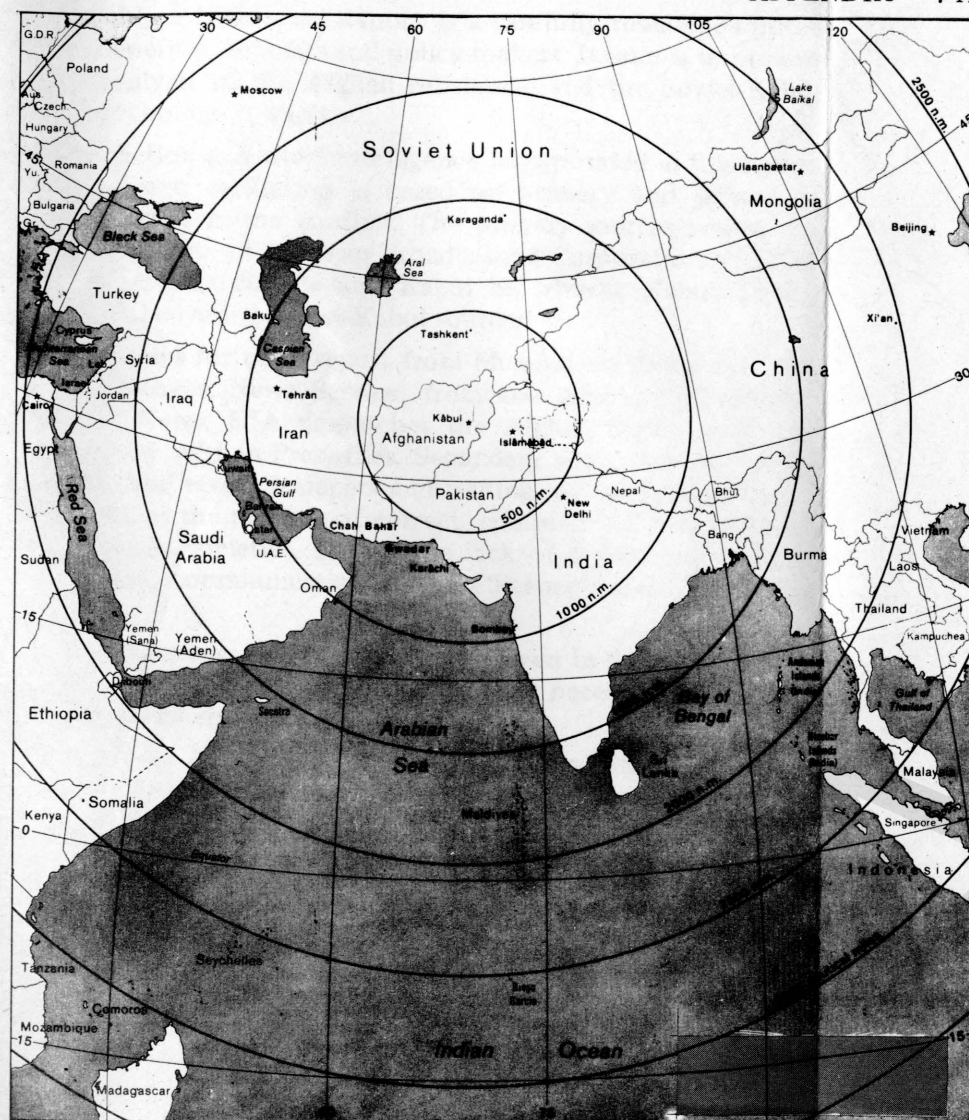
Provinces	Soviet-Kabul Operations	Counter-revolutionaries Action	Total Incidents	Returnees
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	—	—	—	—
Hilmand	2	—	2	25
Qandahar	15	1	16	623
Zabul	3	—	3	—
Ghazni	—	3	3	1500
Paktika	—	—	—	—
Paktiya	11	7	18	—
Ningarhar	23	5	28	—
Kunar	—	—	—	—
Nooristan	—	—	—	—
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	2	—	2	—
Takhar	—	—	—	—
Kunduz	4	4	8	—
Baghlan	1	1	2	—
Samangan	1	—	1	25
Balkh	—	—	—	—
Jozjan	—	—	—	150
Faryab	—	2	2	150
Sar-e-Pul	—	—	—	81
Badghis	—	—	—	360
Bordering Iran				
Herat	4	1	5	—
Farah	2	—	2	—
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	—	—	—	—
Ghor	—	—	—	—
Uruzgan	—	—	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent				
Kabul	13	3	16	—
Parwan	1	—	1	—
Kapisa	—	—	—	—
Laghman	4	8	12	—
Logar	1	—	1	—
Wardak	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:	87	35	122	2860

APPENDIX — 6

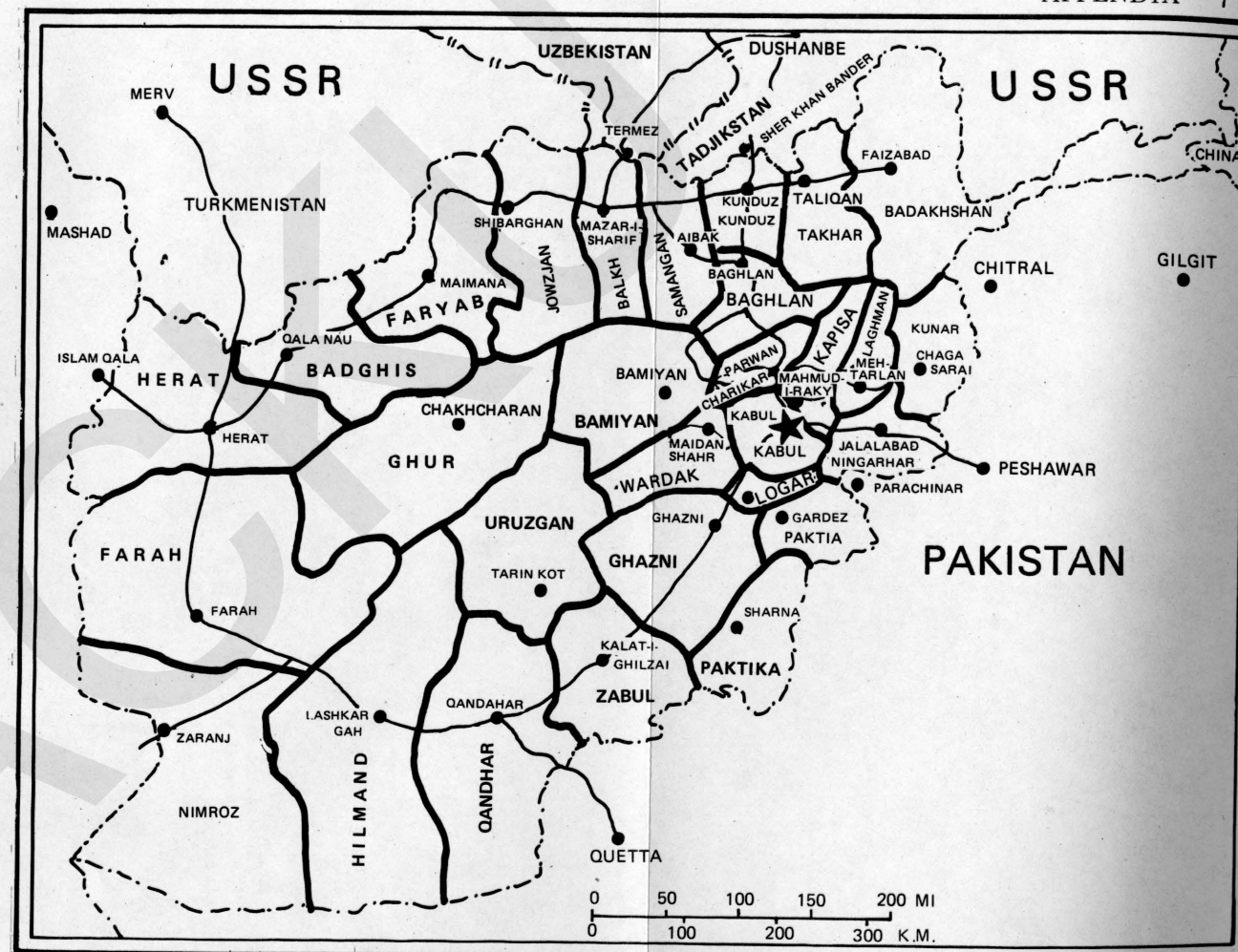
AFGHAN CIVILIAN HUMAN AND MATERIAL LOSSES
IN DECEMBER 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Location	Casualties		Houses destroyed/ Damaged	Date (1988)
		K	W		
Qandahar	Arghandab	16	—	—	05/12
Qandahar	Noorzo Kocha	10	15	10	08/12
Qandahar	Qandahar	30	40	—	09/12
Qandahar	Qandahar	90	30	—	10/12
Qandahar	Qandahar	8	20	10	23/12
Zabul	Shah Joi	18	—	14	02/12
Ningarhar	Charbagh	7	—	—	20/11
Ningarhar	Torkham highway	—	—	15	05/12
Ningarhar	Kot	1	3	—	11/12
Ningarhar	Agam	26	27	10	14/12
Ningarhar	Chapliar	7	—	—	05/12
Ningarhar	Rodat	2	5	—	21/12
Kunar	Noorgul	3	—	—	25/12
Badakhshan	Tapa Sangag	16	—	—	01/12
Badghis	Murgab	33	—	—	25/12
Herat	Herat	10	—	—	06/12
Logar	Pul-e-Alam	10	—	10	08/12
Wardak	Kalrez	10	—	—	17/12
		323	150	69	

APPENDIX - 7 A



APPENDIX - 7 B



Mujahideen sources: Conflict reported during December 1988 in 28 provinces. Provinces from where no war report received, Paktika, Nooristan and Bamiyan.

Radio Kabul: Conflict reported during December 1988 in 17 provinces. Provinces from where no war report received: Nimroz, Paktika, Kunar, Nooristan, Takhar, Balkh, Jozjan, Sar-e-Pul, Badghis, Bamiyan, Ghor, Uruzgan, Kapisa and Wardak.

NOTES

The monthly Afghanistan Report is a carefully researched document for the benefit of scholars and policy-makers. Its aim is to present an objective analysis of the Afghan resistance, and the Soviet-Kabul military and psychological warfare.

The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Kabul Times, and FBIS material covering Soviet-Kabul sources.

Primary sources for news report from Mujahideen include: IUAM Handouts, A1 Bunyan News Service, from the Afghan Information Centre, Afghan News, HIA despatches the Afghan Media Resource Centre and Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are conscious of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up among the Mujahideen.

Figures of casualties and material losses given in Section 3 are in only those few cases where such inclusions were necessary for proper appreciation of the given events.

Losses reported in "Soviet-Kabul" category are often physically not verifiable by the Mujahideen and therefore mostly speculative.

The reports received and reported are subject to the process of verification, whenever possible, which may include interviewing with those most directly informed on the events.

Dates given in parenthesis in the chapter "Province-wise Survey Analysis" are of the actual broadcast.

Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VOIR).

PERIOD COVERED

Facts and figures given in this study are based on reports mostly received during December 1-31, 1988. Appendices 1-7 also incorporate November 1988 incidents reported in December 1988.

II.— POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND SOCIO-CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

1 — POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

The coordinating Council of the Leftist Democratic Parties Alliance (FDPA, SAZA and SZA), held a session on December 11, 1988, under the chairmanship of Hamdullah Gran, First Secretary of SZA (Toilers Organisation of Afghanistan) and took the following decisions:—

- a. Review of political—military situation in the country.
- b. Evaluation of the proceedings of Taif meeting between Yuli Vorontsov and representatives of Seven Party (Mujahideen) Alliance.
- c. Assessment of M.S. Gorbachev's speech in the UN General Assembly.
- d. Endorsement of the text of a sympathy message on the tragic earthquake in Soviet Armenia (Kabul Times: December 13, 1988).

Soviet-Mujahideen hold first direct talks

The talks began in Taif, Saudi Arabia on Saturday, December 3, 1988 between the representatives of the Seven Party Alliance and a Soviet team headed by the first Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov. The two delegations met for two and a half hour on Sunday Morning, December 4, 1988 and discussed all problems concerning Afghanistan. It was confirmed that a Soviet pullout was on the agenda. The Mujahideen sources said, the Soviets did not want to discuss the withdrawal and preferred instead to focus exclusively on the release of Soviet prisoners of war. According to resistance sources, "their talks are a military victory for the Mujahideen who can now have direct contact with Moscow, without the presence of puppet Kabul regime, while at the same time continuing struggle throughout Afghanistan". Moscow had previously maintained that such talks should be held between the Afghan Government and the Mujahideen. Mujahideen demanded direct talks with Soviet's (The Muslim, 6 December, 1988).

The Soviet and Afghan authorities are prepared to hold direct talks with all Afghan resistance groups said Eduard Shevardnadze. This offer aimed at holding negotiations with the Pakistani-based alliance of seven and the Iran-based alliance of eight parties (Pakistan Times, 14 December, 1988).

Bakhtar correspondent reports that Yuli Vorontsov upon his return from Saudi Arabia, presented a lengthy report to the Afghan President Najibullah about the proceedings of his talks with the opposi-

tion in Taif. According to another report the Afghan President Najibullah held a series of meetings with the Vice President, Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Afghanistan and briefed them on the outcome of the Taif talks. President Najibullah also presented a report about Taif talks to the politburo of the CC of the PDPA. The politburo described the Taif meeting as positive (Radio Kabul: December 11, 1988).

Media in Kabul is describing the Taif meeting in lines with President Najibullah's National Reconciliation policy, yet party members are worried that the Soviet Union is close to sacrificing their interest. Many PDP members are said to have not been attending the party meetings. It is said that Mr. Vorontsov has given the proposal of a multi-party government in Kabul. In his talks with the Mujahideen representatives, Mr. Vorontsov had also indicated that the Soviet Union is prepared to accept a government in Kabul which does not include the PDPA (VOA: December 21, 1988).

Gorbachev Calls for a Ceasefire

In an effort to establishing a broad-based government in Afghanistan, Gorbachev while addressing the UN General Assembly, called for a complete ceasefire in Afghanistan from January 1, during which the opposing Afghan groups would retain all territories under their control. He said ceasefire should be supervised by a contingent of the United Nations Peace Keeping Forces, linked to that, as of the same date—January 1, any supplies of arms to all belligerents be stopped. He further said, "we also request the UN Secretary General to facilitate early implementation of the idea of holding an international conference on the neutrality and demilitarisation of Afghanistan." These ideas were also recently proposed by the Kabul regime (Pakistan Times: December 8, 1988).

Kabul Announced Ceasefire

The Afghan government has directed all the units and regiments of the Armed Forces of Afghanistan, to observe ceasefire from January 1st, 1989, until they are attacked. In case, the opponents do not observe ceasefire upto 5th January, it will tantamount to the rejection of peace by the opponents and the Afghan Armed Forces will be compelled to take all measures for the protection and the defence of the peaceful life (Radio Kabul: December 12, 1988).

Mujahideen Reject Ceasefire

Afghan Muslim revolutionaries have rejected the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev's proposal to deploy United Nations force in Afghanistan in the wake of ceasefire there. The Jamiat-e-Islami, a component party of the Pakistani-based seven-party Afghan resistance alliance, rejecting the ceasefire proposal, announced that the Mujahideen's war

will continue until the departure of last Soviet troop from Afghanistan and the fall of Najib government (Radio Tehran: December 10, 1988).

Nineth Anniversary of Soviet Invasion Marked

In a message to mark the 9th anniversary of the Soviet invasion the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Jeoffrey Howe has said that the Kabul government must resign on its own accord to prevent still more bloodshed, but it was also important he said for all parties including the Afghan resistance to exercise restraint (BBC: December 27, 1988).

President Reagan marked the nineth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan with a message, praising the determination of the Afghan people. In his message the President spoke of the promise of peace in Afghanistan, saying this has been a historic year in the struggle of the Afghan people. He said he fully expect the last Soviet soldier to leave Afghanistan as promised by February 15th. However, the President stressed that Soviet military action in Afghanistan is continuing during the withdrawal period. He said the introduction of new weapons and the escalation in the use of Soviet war planes call into question Moscow's commitment to a peaceful solution. Mr. Reagan said the people of Afghanistan have been an example to those around the world who strive for freedom. He said that their determination has brought, what he called, the advance journey in Afghanistan (VOA: December 28, 1988).

On the eve of the ninth anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Afghan exiles have staged demonstrations in several countries of the world. In Pakistan, the Afghan refugees assembled in Peshawar and Rawalpindi and denounced the recent Soviet diplomatic moves. The demonstrators also set an effigy of President Najibullah on fire. In Delhi 300 Afghans set an effigy of President Gorbachev on fire. Radio Tehran reports that processions were taken out in several Iranian cities, including Tehran. The processionists demanded the establishment of an Islamic Republic in Afghanistan. VOA reports that more than 1,500 Afghans and their supporters have held a demonstration against the Soviet invasion in the Dutch capital, Hague. The demonstrators marched towards the Soviet Embassy to condemn the Soviet aggression on Afghanistan. They raised slogans against the Soviet Union and trampled the Soviet flag (BBC, VOA: December 27, 1988).

Soviet Troops Withdrawal

The Soviet Union says it will withdraw all its troops from Afghanistan by mid-February as stipulated in the Geneva Accords, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Yuli Vorontsov said this during his meeting with King Fahad of Saudi Arabia after talks with Afghan rebels. Mr. Vorontsov said the talks are beneficial and will contribute to ending the war and bringing peace to Afghanistan (AIR: December 6, 1988).

In a press conference in Sweden the Deputy Foreign Minister of

Iran, Mr. Larajani has called for immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. He said that this will pave the way for the settlement of Afghan problem. He added that Iran has all along been backing the Afghan Mujahideen as well as the Afghan people and it believes that the Muslim people of that country would be able to form a strong and powerful government. Mr. Larajani said that all Muslim people of Afghanistan and their true representatives, i.e. the Mujahideen should be included in the future government of that country and added that Iran would support them in this regard (Radio Tehran: December 13, 1988).

Broad-Based Government

The First Deputy Foreign Minister, Yuli Vorontsov and Alexander Bessmertnykh (Ph) have met in Moscow with the American Ambassador to consider provisions to be made for the creation of a broad-based government in Afghanistan. Meanwhile, the United Nations Secretary General, Perez de Cuellar has discussed Afghanistan problem with the United States Secretary of State, George Shultz (Radio Moscow: December 23, 1988).

The Indian Foreign Minister, Natwar Singh told a BBC correspondent in Islamabad that India supports Najibullah government in Afghanistan and said no broad-based government could be set up in Afghanistan without PDP's participation. He said Afghans should decide themselves about their future government but it is not possible that member of the PDP should remain out of power after ruling the country for nine years. He said that there are also differences of opinion among various Mujahideen groups. He maintained that none of these groups represent feelings and views of Afghan masses.

He once again reiterated his government concern for a fundamentalist take over in Kabul (BBC: December 29, 1988).

New Appointments

Proposed by Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Hassan Sharq and approved by President Najibullah, the following appointments were made in the Cabinet:—

1. Khalilullah, as Minister of Transport.
2. Mir Azimuddin, as Minister of Communications (Kabul Times: December 20, 1988).

President Najibullah has issued the decree No. 784, dated May 27, 1988 on the appointment of Haji Abdul Ghafoor son of Band Ali as Senator in the National Assembly of the Republic of Afghanistan (Kabul Times: December 10, 1988).

Sources of the Afghan Mujahideen have said that the Afghan Defence Minister General Shah Nawaz Tanai is going to resign due to the failure of government troops to counter Mujahideen attacks (Radio

Tehran: December 1, 1988).

Sharq Greet Benazir

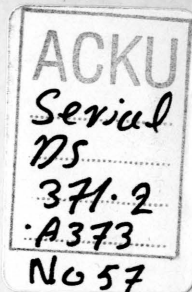
The Afghan Prime Minister, Mohammad Hassan Sharq has sent a message of greetings to her Excellency, Benazir Bhutto, on her appointment as the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (Radio Kabul: December 3, 1988).

Afghan Resistance

The second round of talks between leaders of Iran-based and Pakistan-based Afghan Mujahideen alliances began in Tehran today. The delegation of Iran-based alliance is led by Karim Khalili, while the Pakistan-based alliance is being headed by Burhanuddin Rabbani. According to our correspondent they discussed methodology of withdrawal of Soviet troops and the future government of Afghanistan. Later, a communique issued by the spokesman of Mujahideen alliances stressed that the future Islamic government in Afghanistan would be formed through free elections and with the participation of the people of that country. The communique said that Mujahideen would fully support the independent and non-aligned status of Afghanistan. The statement also condemned Gorbachev's proposal for deployment of UN Force in Afghanistan. The communique pledged to continue armed struggle till the withdrawal of Soviet forces and fall of Kabul regime and not to accept ceasefire (Radio Tehran: December 28, 1988).

In an official communique, the Supreme Command of the Afghan Armed Forces has once again called upon Ahmad Shah Masood, to give positive response to the letters of the Afghan government and to desist from looting the passengers on Salang Highway, otherwise the armed forces will take all possible measures to prevent and check his subversive activities. In such a situation Ahmed Shah will be responsible for the consequences, the communique concluded (Radio Kabul: December 26, 1988).





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